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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Yasuo HIRA et al.

Serial No.: 09/923,427

Filed: August 8, 2001

For: META AND CASE DATABASE DISTRIBUTED INFORMATION  
SYSTEM AND METHOD IMPLEMENTING RULE BASED  
SOLUTIONS TO CUSTOMER AND COMPANY SPECIFIC  
ENGINEERING PROBLEMS (As Amended)

Group: 2121

Examiner: M. Bell

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JUL 12 2004

Technology Center 2100

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 6, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 6, 2004, the period for reply thereto being extended by two months by the attached Petition for Extension of Time to expire on July 6, 2004, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 5.

**Amendments to the Drawings** describing changes to drawings shown in the Appendix are on page 15.

**Remarks** are included following the amendments.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following the Remarks.

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